

# OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

The Office of Sustainability provides leadership, education, policy analysis, project development, measurement and accountability for the County's sustainability efforts.

The division is a resource for County operations and community residents for topics related to energy conservation, waste reduction and recycling, green building practices and products, greenhouse gas emissions and more.

Sustainability Manager Maggie Theriot, the point person for sustainable actions both internal to the County and in the community, was born and raised in Tallahassee. She holds a master's degree in Public Administration and a master's degree in Urban & Regional Planning from Florida State University.



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## GROWING GREEN TOGETHER

- Coordinated the Sustainable Communities Summit in May 2010, which drew nearly 400 community members to the two-day event that featured more than 30 breakout sessions and well known authors Bill McKibben and John Robbins.
- Established the Leon Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) to offer low-interest financing for energy efficiency improvements to Leon County homeowners. LEAP is the first program in Florida to enact a property-based finance program, which is connected with the property, not to the individual owner.
- Through a creative effort, two community gardens are now established on County-owned property. The County provided initial infrastructure, such as fencing and irrigation, while members of the community plant and maintain the vegetables and fruit.
- Through a competitive grant award, the Office of Sustainability received \$1.17 million for energy efficiency improvements to several County buildings. The funds were part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and will provide upgrades to lighting and lighting controls. By installing more efficient lights, using occupancy sensors and controls, Leon County will save an estimated \$164,000 on annual energy costs.
- Implemented "green cleaning" in the County Courthouse and Downtown Courthouse Annex. The "green" aspects of the service include the cleaning equipment, consumable supplies and cleaners.



**Leon County**

While reducing the environmental impact of custodial services for two of the largest County buildings, the County will save nearly \$29,000 annually over the previous service contract.

- In partnership with the Fleet Management Division, a Fuel Management System was implemented. By installing monitoring devices on 220 vehicles, staff can monitor detailed fuel consumption data and target individual vehicles or drivers who are not operating to industry standards.
- Once constructed, the new Eastside Branch Library will feature a solar photovoltaic system, recycled building materials, use of natural day lighting and a rainwater capture system to irrigate its landscaping. The entire building will be constructed to Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards.
- Environmentally friendly motor oil is now used in all applicable County vehicles. The synthetic blend is recycled used oil that is re-refined a second time while also receiving a performance additive. The oil exceeds the toughest standards in North America for quality and is competitively priced.



## DID YOU KNOW

Leon County hosted the Sustainable Communities Summit in May 2010 to educate more than 350 attendees about locally grown food and 'green' economic development.